Norman, M. D., R. T. Eades, & G. L. Swihart. In press. Fishes of the Great Dismal Swamp, Virginia. In R. K. Rose (ed.), Proceedings of the Third Symposium on the Great Dismal Swamp. Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA.

Oats, R. Q., & N. K. Coch. 1973. Post-Miocene stratigraphy and morphology, southeastern Virginia. Virginia Division of Mineral Resources Bulletin 82:1-135.

Schwartz, F. J. 1988. Pre- and post-drought fish surveys of selected freshwater ponds located in Nags Head Woods, Nags Head, North Carolina. ASB Bulletin 35:189-198.

Werler, J. A., & J. McCallion. 1951. Notes on a collection of reptiles and amphibians from Princess Anne County, Virginia. American Midland Naturalist 45:245-252.

Wright, J. B., L. G. Musselman, G. F. Levy, and J. L. Kernell. 1990. The vascular flora of Seashore State Park, Virginia Beach, Virginia. Rhodora 92:90-102.

Shorter Contributions

Banisteria, Number 9, 1997

JUVENILE GREEN TURTLES (*CHELONIA MYDAS*) STRANDED BY COLD IN THE CHESAPEAKE BAY — Reports of sea turtles stranded because of cold water temperatures are not uncommon for coastal Atlantic waters north of the Carolinas (Morreale et al., 1992; Shoop & Kenney, 1992). In the Chesapeake Bay of Virginia, USA, stranded sea turtles have been reported for all months outside of the normal activity season (May-October) when juveniles of at least four species (loggerhead [*Caretta caretta*], green turtle [*Chelonia mydas*], hawksbill [*Eretmochelys imbricata*], Kemp's ridley [*Lepidochelys kempii*]) enter the Bay to forage (Keinath et al., 1987; Mitchell, 1994). Sea turtles usually enter and leave the Chesapeake Bay when the water temperature rises above or falls below 18° C (Musick, 1988). Barco & Pitchford (1990) reported that four live *C. caretta* and one live *L. kempii* were found stranded on beaches along the southern end of the Chesapeake Bay and on the Atlantic beach of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia, between 8 and 14 December 1989. They also noted that five additional loggerheads were found after this period. Although several individuals of *C. mydas* have been recorded for the Chesapeake Bay (Keinath et al., 1987; Keinath & Musick, 1991), reports of stranded green turtles due to cold temperatures in this estuary have not been published.

The earliest *Chelonia mydas* recorded in the waters of the Chesapeake Bay during winter months was a juvenile (National Museum of Natural History, USNM 51212) found on 25 January 1893 at the mouth of the Bay by J.A. Bully. This record was first reported by Reed (1957). The latest record is of a juvenile found on 14 December 1995 on the eastern shore of the Chesapeake Bay about 0.8 km south of Kiptopeke State Park, Northampton County, Virginia by G. Williamson and P. Williamson. The turtle measured 33.9 cm straightline carapace length and 27.9 cm plastron length. It was dead when found but exhibited no obvious signs of injury or decomposition. Water temperatures in the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay, the mouth of the James River, and southwest of Cape Charles on 12 December 1995 were 5.5-6.8°C (n = 6 each depth) at 1 m, 5.7-6.8°C at 5 m, 5.3-7.3°C at 10 m, and 6.1-9.8°C at 15 m. These temperatures, well below those marking annual entry and exit to and from the Bay, and the late dates, suggest that the deaths of the juvenile reported here and the one reported by Reed (1957) were related to cold torpor. If these are rare occurrences, then the losses to the *Chelonia mydas* population off the North American coast may not be severe. However, the continued decline of this species causes even these rare instances of natural mortality to grow in importance.

Acknowledgments

We are indebted to Mike Lane (Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA) for the temperature data. Jack Musick and Steve Roble commented on earlier drafts of the manuscript.

Literature Cited

Barco, S.G., & T.D. Pitchford. 1990. Field notes: *Caretta caretta* (loggerhead sea turtle) and *Lepidochelys kempi* (Atlantic Ridley sea turtle). Catesbeiana 10:19.

Keinath, J.A., & J.A. Musick. 1991. Atlantic green turtle, *Chelonia mydas*. Pp. 449-450 *In* K. Terwilliger (Coordinator), Virginia's Endangered Species. McDonald & Woodward Publishing Co., Blacksburg, VA.

Keinath, J.A., J.A. Musick, & R.A. Byles. 1987. Aspects of the biology of Virginia's sea turtles: 1979-1986. Virginia Journal of Science 38:329-336.

Mitchell, J.C. 1994. The Reptiles of Virginia. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, D.C. 352 pp.

Morreale, S.J., A.B. Meylan, S.S. Sandove, & E.A. Standora. 1992. Annual occurrence and winter mortality of marine turtles in New York waters. Journal of Herpetology 26:301-308.

Musick, J.A. 1988. The sea turtles of Virginia with notes on identification and natural history. 2nd edition. Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Education Service, No. 24. Gloucester Point, VA. 22 pp.

Reed, C.F. 1957. Contributions to the herpetology of Virginia, 3: the herpetofauna of Accomac and Northampton counties, Va. Journal of the Washington Academy of Science 47:89-91.

Shoop, C.R., & R.D. Kenney. 1992. Seasonal distributions and abundances of loggerhead and leatherback sea turtles in waters of the northeastern United States. Herpetological Monographs 6:43-67.

Joseph C. Mitchell
Department of Biology and School of Continuing Studies
University of Richmond
Richmond, Virginia 23173

Donald J. Schwab
Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
5806 Mooretown Road
Williamsburg, Virginia 23188

and

Gary M. Williamson
False Cape State Park
4001 Sandpiper Road
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23456

Banisteria, Number 9, 1997

THE LEAF BEETLE *PSEUDOLAMPSIS GUTTATA* (LECONTE) IN VIRGINIA (CHRYSOMELIDAE: ALTICINAE). - A blacklight trap placed by Steven M. Roble and the author beside a private access road continuing Co. Rt. 666, 2 km east of Claresville, Greensville Co., Virginia, collected a large number of insects during its overnight operation on 7-8 August 1996. Upon being sorted for preparation at the Virginia Museum of Natural History, the accumulation was noted to include dozens of specimens of a small and very colorful alticine chrysomelid not represented in the museum's collection. On the basis of enlarged metafemora, apically spherical 5th tarsomere of the rear legs, and densely hispid elytra, the species was identified to the genus *Distigmoptera* with the recent manual of northeastern beetles by Downie & Arnett (1996). However, the specimens did not conform to the generic diagnosis in lacking both mid-elytral depressions and long coarse dorsal setae, nor did it "key out" to any of the six species treated. Several individuals sent to the Department of Entomology, National Museum of Natural History were identified by Steven Lingefelter, Research Entomologist with the USDA Systematic Entomology Laboratory, to be *Pseudolampsis guttata* (LeConte), a beetle with a distinctly Lower Austral distribution

The collection site is beside an extensive permanent marsh in the Meherrin River floodplain. Subsequent sorting of backlogged samples at VMNH produced three additional specimens of *guttata*, taken by random sweeping of low vegetation near the Meherrin River on 19 August 1994 (VMNH survey party). This site is about 1 km east of the blacklight station, with which it seemed to have few vegetational facies in common.

Originally described from Louisiana, *P. guttata* was not listed for North Carolina in either of the insect lists compiled by Brimley (1938) or Wray (1967), and no specimens are represented in the insect collection at North Carolina State University. It is recorded by Kirk (1969) for Florence and Sumter counties, South Carolina, with the notation "Extremely rare, but common locally." These are apparently the northernmost published localities for the species. The known range was reviewed by Balsbaugh (1969), who established that the beetle extends from South Carolina to Argentina.

Dr. Lingafelter kindly provided a list of the *guttata* material in the USNM collection. Most (16 specimens) are from Alachua and Highlands counties, Florida, but several are from